

County Board Finance & Audit Committee

Supervisor Elizabeth M. Coggs, Chair

Supervisor Johnny L. Thomas, Vice-Chair Supervisor James "Luigi" Schmitt Supervisor Peggy A. West Supervisor Michael Mayo, Sr. Supervisor Willie Johnson, Jr. Supervisor Patricia Jursik

For Immediate Release October 25, 2010 Contact: Harold Mester, Public Information Manager 414/278-4051 or harold.mester@milwcnty.com

COUNTY BOARD 2011 BUDGET BLAST: OCTOBER 25, 2010

Milwaukee, WI – The Milwaukee County Board's Finance & Audit Committee is holding a series of public meetings throughout October on the <u>County Executive's 2011 Recommended Budget</u>. Each day, the Committee votes on a number of specific departments and items in the budget.



Finance & Audit Committee Budget Meeting from Courthouse Room 203-R

Today, the Committee **voted to approve** the following budget items:

- 5-1 (as amended) (No: Mayo) Parks Department
 - o Amendment approved 6-0: Deem Crystal Ridge surplus parkland and the Parks Director will sell the property, with the first \$4 million proceeds to be used to retire approximately \$4 million existing debt, with the remaining revenue to be used to finance Parks major maintenance projects.
 - Amendment approved 6-0: Address the policy recommendations from the Department of Audit's
 "Tale of Two Systems" audit to establish policy for long-term parks facility needs and expand
 public/private partnerships.
 - o Amendment approved 5-1 (No: Jursik): Review the Parks Maintenance Workers and Forestry Workers job duties to ensure efficiency in performing routine parks maintenance.
 - Amendment approved 5-1 (No: Coggs): Seek obtaining a separate line item on the County property
 tax bill for parks and cultural institutions rather than create separate, unelected entities such as a
 Parks District which would result in unnecessary duplication.
 - Amendment approved 4-2: The General Manager of the Villa Terrace/Charles Allis Art Museum shall develop a strategic plan for future operation of the Museums that maximizes self support.
- 5-1 (No: Mayo) Zoological Department
- 6-0 (as amended) CEX-Office of Economic Development/DTPW-Director's Office

 Amendment approved 6-0: to keep the Office of Economic Development in the Department of Transportation & Public Works rather than The County Executive's Office.

The Committee voted to lay over the following budget items:

- Land Sales
- Unclaimed Money

The Committee voted to approve the following <u>Capital Improvements Budgets</u>:

- 6-0 (as amended) Parks Major Maintenance
 - Amendment approved 6-0: Delete projects associated with the Crystal Ridge land sale revenue and maintain \$100,000 in financing from University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee land sale revenue to perform replace portions of the HVAC system at the Domes
- 5-0 (as amended) (Excused: West) Parks Tuckpointing Walls & Buildings
 - O Amended to delete \$800,000 in Crystal Ridge land sale revenue originally budgeted for tuckpointing at various locations
- 5-0 (Excused: West) as amended Parks Retaining Wall Repairs & Replacement
 - o To issue bond financing to repair retaining walls located in Estabrook Park
- New Capital
 - o 4-2 (No: Mayo, Schmitt) to study alternatives to relocate South Shore Beach
- 5-1 (as amended) (No: Mayo) Zoo Master Plan

Supervisor Thomas was excused from today's meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, October 26 in Room 203-R of the Milwaukee County Courthouse.

Click here to access the 2011 County Budget meeting schedule

<u>Click here to listen to live audio from the meetings</u> (available while meetings are in progress)

The County Board of Supervisors, under the leadership of Chairman Lee Holloway, will adopt the County's 2011 Budget on Monday, November 8 at 8:30 a.m. in Room 200 of the Milwaukee County Courthouse.

The County Board's annual Public Hearing on the 2011 Budget is scheduled for 7 p.m. Monday, November 1 at the Washington Park Senior Center.

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